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County Borough of Sunderland.

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL

OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1951

Sunderland:

ROBERT YOULL, Printer, etc. 38 Norfolk Street.

1952

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Administration
OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR 1951

BY

A. STUART HEBBLETHWAITE,
M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
and School Medical Officer.

HEALTH COMMITTEE AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Alderman J. Cohen, O.B.E., J.P., Chairman.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
(Alderman W. Harvey), Ex-Officio.

Alderman Miss E. E. Blacklock, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman J. Hoy, M.B.E., J.P.

Alderman E. Johnston, J.P.

Alderman W. Miller

Alderman T. L. Ridley, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. M. S. Barry.

- ,, J. Brown.
- ,, T. M. Carr.
- ,, Mrs. K. Cohen
- ,, J. Fawcitt.
- ,, D. G. Lawson.
- ,, Mrs. J. Ledger.
- ,, J. N. Lisle.
- ,, C. Paull.

Councillor J. A. Smith.

- ,, P. Spiers.
- ,, J. Starkey.
- ,, J. Tweddle.
- ,, A. Watson.
- ,, L. Watson.
- ,, R. T. Weston, M.B.E.
- ,, J. W. P. Wilkinson.
- ,, Mrs. M. R. Young.

Co-opted Members.

Councillor W. Wilson (Education Committee).

Dr. P. Hickey (Sunderland Executive Council and Sunderland Division B.M.A.).

Alderman Mrs. J. Huggins, J.P.

Councillor Miss L. Hill

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	A. STUART HEBBLETHWAITE, M.C., M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.
Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare ...	ETHEL BROWELL, M.D., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	BERTHA FLINTOFF, M.B., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	ANNE H. WRIGHT, M.B., Ch.B.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare (half-time)	MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B.
Consultant Chest Physicians (part-time)	ADAM B. WHITE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
	JAMES F. E. JOHNSON, M.B., Ch.B.
Consultant Venereologist	E. S. KIRKHOUSE, T.D., M.D.
Borough Analyst	W. GORDON CAREY, F.I.C.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	NORMAN ADOLPHUS MARLEE, Cert.R.S.I.
Chief Clerk	JAMES W. MILLER.
Superintendent Health Visitor ...	MISS M. M. WAGGOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.R.S.I.
Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives...	MISS E. E. FISHER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Special Inspectors: Meat Inspectors (2) (1 combined post with that of Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector): Factories and Workshops (1): Food, Drugs and Dairies (1): Housing (2): Drainage (2):	
Total	8
District Sanitary Inspectors (1 Part-time Meat)	9
Rodent Control Officer and 3 Rodent Officers	4
Removal and Disinfecting Staff	3
District Health Visitors	15
Tuberculosis Health Visitors	3
Municipal Midwives	20
Almoner Clerk (V.D. Department)	1
Sister (Light Treatment Department)	1
Home Help Organiser	1
Clerical Staff (2 H.M. Forces)	19

1 Drainage Assistant, 1 Drainage Van driver, 1 Caretaker and 3 Cleaners (Health Department), 185 Domestic Helps (Full and Part-Time), 1 Caretaker (Newcastle Road I.W.C.).

ST. MARK'S DAY NURSERY: Matron, Assistant Matron, Warden, 8 Nursing Staff, Cook, 2 Cleaners, and 1 Maid.

THOMPSON PARK DAY NURSERY: Matron, Assistant Matron and 8 Nursing Staff, Cook and 3 Cleaners.

PARKER MEMORIAL HOME FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS:— Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and 1 Cleaner.

PUPIL MIDWIFERY HOSTEL, 4 THORNHILL PARK: Resident Superintendent, Cook, Maid and 3 Cleaners.

AMBULANCE SERVICE: 1 Ambulance Officer, 1 Deputy Ambulance Officer, 31 Ambulance Drivers and 1 Mechanic.
Psychiatrist (part-time) Dr. W. Hinds.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE: 1 Medical Officer for Mental Health—

MENTAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, 7 MURTON STREET: 1 Mental Deficiency Officer, 2 Social Workers (one acting for Duly Authorised Officer when necessary), 1 Social Worker (Psychiatric After-Care, Part-Time), ceased 30/9/51, and 1 Shorthand-Typist Clerk.

OCCUPATION CENTRE: 1 Supervisor, 1 Assistant Supervisor.

ELDER GIRLS' CLASS: 1 Supervisor.

INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, RAILWAY ROW: 1 Supervisor (male instructor).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, "THORNHOLME": 1 Duly Authorised Officer— Lunacy and Mental Treatment Act.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-fifth Annual Report on the health of the County Borough of Sunderland for the year 1951.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General is 179,900, an increase of 1,800 on the figure for 1950.

The number of live births registered during the year was 3,487, of which 1,753 were males, and 1,734 were females, representing a live birth rate of 19.4 per 1,000 of the population compared with 19.3 for the previous year, actually 51 more births. The rates for England and Wales and the 126 Great Towns were 15.5 and 17.3 respectively.

During the year 2,242 deaths were recorded (1,178 males and 1,064 females), an increase of 4 on the previous year, equal to a death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 of the population. The rates for England and Wales and the 126 Great Towns were 12.5 and 13.4 respectively.

133 infants died under the age of one year, equal to an Infant Mortality rate of 38.1 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales was 29.6 and for the 126 Great Towns 33.9. 76 of the 133 infant deaths occurred under the age of one month, equal to a neo-natal mortality rate of 21.8 per 1,000 live births.

Two maternal deaths occurred during the year giving a Maternal Mortality rate of 0.56 per 1,000 (live and still) births; the rate for England and Wales was 0.79. In Sunderland, to have a maternal death rate below that of England and Wales as a whole is unusual and has occurred during the last two years.

The principal causes of death, in order of numerical importance were, heart diseases (including 105 other circulatory diseases) 677, Cancer (including 6 leukaemia and aleukaemia) 361, respiratory diseases 298, and tuberculosis 96.

Tuberculosis. Whilst the death rate of 0.53 for all forms of tuberculosis is the lowest on record for the Borough, the incidence of this disease is still higher than desirable.

The total number of new cases notified to me was 330 namely, 278 pulmonary (last year 211) and 52 non-pulmonary (last year 45), a total increase of 74 on the previous year.

The increase in notifications can be attributed to some extent to the Mass Radiography Surveys now periodically carried out and to the better diagnosis of the disease.

The three methods adopted for the prevention of the spread of this disease are being maintained, viz.:—

- (1) The removal of the infected patient;
- (2) The transfer of contact children to a free from infection house;
- (3) The immunisation of the children by B.C.G. vaccination.

Infectious Disease. The total notifications of general infectious diseases numbered 5,355 compared with 3,389 for the previous year, there being decreases in diphtheria (9), Acute poliomyelitis para and non-para (28), pneumonia (28), dysentery (57); and increases in scarlet fever (70), influenzal pneumonia (12), measles (1,061), whooping cough (876), puerperal pyrexia (45) and para-typhoid (19).

Immunisation. One of the greatest scientific developments in connection with preventive medicine has undoubtedly been the immunisation of children against diphtheria; and whether this is the cause or not, it is pleasing to record that no child died from this disease in the Borough during 1951.

Home Help Service. The enlargement of the Home Help Scheme in 1951 has enabled a greater number of persons to receive benefit from the service and approximately 380 cases receive help weekly as compared with 250 in 1950. A large percentage of these cases are chronic sick and aged persons who require help for an indefinite period and are allotted the minimum amount of time consistent with genuine need. There is an ever growing waiting list of aged persons requiring help. As statistics show we are an increasingly ageing community and it is very gratifying to know that this service enables incapacitated aged persons who tenaciously hold on to independence to remain in their own homes.

The most urgent and needy, such as maternity cases and emergency patients, receive priority, and the Department is aware, more than any outside person, of the urgency of these necessitous and emergency cases.

Ambulance Service. The radio telephone service between the Ambulance Depot and ambulances out on the streets on duty continues to pay dividends. On many occasions throughout the year, time has been saved which has been of the greatest importance; and it has surprised the many onlookers of street accidents and other incidents when an ambulance has arrived in what appears to be an incredibly short space of time.

Cremation. The Crematorium opened in the Autumn of the year and the necessary official procedure for this form of disposal of the dead has been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Twenty-five years as a chief officer of a department is a long time in the life of anyone and during that period major changes have occurred. It would perhaps, therefore, be not altogether inappropriate for some of these changes to be noted. They may have had little or nothing to do with public health; or on the other hand, they may possibly have been due to the administration of preventive medicine.

The population in 1927 was estimated at 162,700 and is now 179,900—not an excessive increase; but the acreage of the Borough due to extensions for housing purposes has grown appreciably from 3,357 to 9,013.574 acres.

The birth-rate then was 22.4, and for 1951 was 19.4; the death-rate (the lowest on record at that time) 13.8, was lower again for 1951, being 12.5.

Perhaps the most outstanding improvement is shown in the relative figures for Infant Mortality. In 1927 the rate was 94 per 1,000 births and for 1951 was 38.1.

The difference between 94 and 38 is 56 and mathematicians can work out for themselves the number of infant lives which have been saved as the mortality rate did not persist for 25 years at the rate of 94 per thousand births.

It will also be observed that Maternal Mortality has been considerably reduced from the 17 deaths with a rate of 4.68 to 2 deaths with a rate of 0.56 for 1951. What has reduced the maternal mortality rate is not so easy to declare. We may think it is due to the disappearance of the "handy-woman" and the institution of a better service by domiciliary midwives. Others may consider that the improvement in various chemical medicaments has reduced deaths in childbirth; but whatever the cause, motherhood is now a safe procedure.

With regard to the two chief mortality diseases, cancer and heart disease, no particular satisfactory improvement is to be observed, the figures reading: cancer 179 (1.09) 361 (2.00) in the respective years of comparison; and heart diseases 408 (2.48) as against 677 (3.76) for the year 1951.

As regards infectious and other diseases, the most appreciable decreases in the death rate have been with regard to diphtheria

from 15 deaths (0.09) to none for the year under review; diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age) from 52 deaths (0.32) to 4 in 1951 (0.022); measles, 50 deaths (0.30) to 1 (0.005); and tuberculosis (all forms) 224 with a death rate of 1.86 to 96 for 1951 and a rate of 0.53 per 1,000 of the population.

Smallpox has ceased to be recorded as a disease. What is the cause of this lowering of practically all the infectious diseases? It is surely the better standard of sanitary environment throughout the Borough.

Food poisoning has increased; and this is possibly caused by the number of additional meals taken outside the homes of the people where various incidents may lead to infection. The sale of ice-cream in wafers, cornets, and glasses at the street corners has ceased. Ice-cream is now retailed wrapped up in paper and the nuisance from this is almost as great as the condition which has been superseded. Ice-cream appears rapidly to have been supplemented by iced-lollies, the consumption of which appears to be a very untidy habit.

Potato crisps seems to have taken the place of fried fish and chips consumed in the open, and although their wrappings litter the town, they are not quite such a nuisance as the fish and chip papers were.

One of the biggest improvements in the 25 years has been in slum clearance and it is regretted that the last war which was responsible for the demolition of 1,000 houses in an already over-crowded Borough, put a stop to this very necessary sanitary process. Houses have now to be repaired which should be pulled down: this is necessitated by the absence of a sufficient number of new houses for the people to live in and also for those people who cannot afford the rent of a new house. The new housing estates themselves have created a problem for public health administration because homes are now further away from the centre of control and every servant of a local authority has to be made more mobile.

One of the largest developments has been in connection with the sea front and although the quietude of the previous rustic conditions was more acceptable to the residents of that area, undoubtedly the construction of promenades and various attractions for visitors has resulted in more and more people obtaining the benefits of the open air. Noise is still one of the unsolved public health problems.

In conclusion, I have again to record with pleasure the continual hard and effective work carried out by the whole of the personnel of the Health Department.

A. STUART HEBBLETHWAITE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

"Thornholme,"

Sunderland,

July, 1952.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area. The Area of the Borough is 9,013·574 acres exclusive of foreshore and tidal waters.

Population. The Census population has been published as 181,515, but the Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of the Borough is 179,900.

Inhabited Houses. The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951, according to the Rate Books, was 42,552.

Rateable Value. The rateable value at 1st April, 1951, was £1,024,989. and the sum represented by a penny rate was £4,150.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	3,375	1,693	1,682
Illegitimate	112	60	52
BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population	19.4		
STILLBIRTHS—Legitimate 90, Illegitimate 7	97	44	53
RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births	27.1		
DEATHS	2,242	1,178	1,064
DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population	12.5		
DEATHS FROM Puerperal Causes—			
Puerperal Sepsis	—		
Other Puerperal causes	2	0.56	
Total	2	0.56	
Deaths. Rate per 1,000 births.			
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—			
All infants per 1,000 live births	38.1		
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	37.6		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	53.6		
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE:—			
All infants per 1,000 live births	21.8		
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.9		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	17.8		
Deaths from Cancer, including Leukemia (all ages)	361		
.. .. Whooping Cough (all ages)	3		
.. .. Djarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4		

Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of 'Residents' whether occurring within or without the district.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1951

Sex

		ALL AGES	Under 1 yr.	1 to 5 yr.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 & over
Tuberculosis of the resp. system	M	55	—	—	—	—	22	23	7	3
... F	29	—	—	—	7	13	5	2	2	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	M	7	—	1	3	—	2	—	1	—
... F	5	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	M	6	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1
... F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
... F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
... F	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	M	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
... F	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
... F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
... F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	5	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
... F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	M	206	—	—	1	2	15	76	76	36
... F	149	—	1	—	—	—	11	46	62	29
Leukemia and Alcukemia	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
... F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Diabetes	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
... F	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	129	—	—	—	1	—	20	36	72
... F	164	—	—	—	1	2	—	25	51	85
Heart Diseases	M	285	—	—	—	1	11	73	96	104
... F	287	—	—	—	4	10	48	83	142	—
Other circulatory diseases	M	43	1	—	—	—	—	1	8	32
... F	62	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	8	46
Influenza	M	19	1	—	—	—	—	1	6	6
... F	28	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	20
Pneumonia	M	57	9	—	—	—	—	6	14	12
... F	60	12	1	—	—	1	1	11	10	16
Bronchitis	M	95	6	—	—	—	—	4	33	26
... F	70	1	1	—	—	—	2	10	20	36
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	11	1	1	—	—	—	1	3	2
... F	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	21	—	—	—	—	—	6	10	3
... F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	5	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
... F	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	11	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	4
... F	17	—	—	—	2	—	3	3	6	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	13
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Congenital malformations	M	8	5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
... F	13	7	1	—	—	—	1	4	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	119	49	4	—	4	12	18	17	15
... F	115	26	2	2	3	6	27	23	26	—
Motor vehicle accidents	M	11	—	1	2	—	3	4	—	1
... F	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
All other accidents	M	31	—	1	8	2	5	8	2	5
... F	18	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	4	9
Suicide	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
... F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Homicide or operations of war	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
... F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	M	1178	81	9	15	11	94	306	316	346
	F	1064	52	14	5	18	60	200	284	431

SECTION B.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

During the year, the Central Ambulance Service had 39,966 calls.

The total number of calls and the mileage entailed as compared with the previous year was as follows:—

			Calls.	Mileage.
1950	...	...	37,164	152,758
1951	...	...	39,966	170,264

Staff:

The strength of the staff during 1951 was as follows:—

1 Ambulance Officer.

1 Deputy Ambulance Officer.

5 drivers—12 midnight to 8 a.m.

5 , , 4 p.m. to 12 midnight.

2 " 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (for accidents)

2 " 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. (to cover peak period).

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

6 , , Relief for rest days of staff.

2 " 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 12 midnight
(for H.I.D. cases).

1 Mechanic.

34

Removal of Cases:

General Hospital	...	...	...	9,396
Highfield Welfare	...	...	...	38
Hospital for Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	1,014
Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	9,379
Monkwearmouth Hospital	...	...	...	12,188
Childrens' Hospital	...	...	...	1,235
Ryhope General Hospital	...	...	...	1,568
County Cases	...	...	...	1,454
Accidents	...	...	...	1,410
Eye Infirmary	...	...	...	376
Other journeys	...	...	...	1,908
				39,966

Removals by Ambulances	33,186
,, ,, Sitting Case Cars ..	6,780
Miles covered by Ambulances	131,107
,, ,, Sitting Case Cars	34,500
,, ,, Utility Van ...	4,657

Radio telephones are fitted to a number of ambulances and and there is a fixed station transmitter receiver at the Central Ambulance Depot at Eden Vale.

The Ambulance Service under Civil Defence has received attention and the permanent drivers, in addition to the Civil Defence volunteers to the Ambulance Service, have received a basic training and also an extensive course on First Aid.

Ambulance Depots for Civil Defence have been earmarked in suitable buildings in the Borough.

SECTION C.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Infant Welfare Centres.—The total number of Infant Welfare Centres functioning in 1951 was 13. This figure includes a new Centre which was opened on November 20th, 1951, at St. Thomas's Church Hall, Pennywell.

The situation of the Centres and the sessions held are shown hereunder.

Day.	Mornings.	Afternoons.
Monday	—	Southwick: Dean Terrace Church Hall.
Tuesday	(a) Ford Estate: Social Service Hall. (b) 7 Newcastle Road.	(a) Grangetown: St. Aidan's Church Hall. (b) Springwell: St. Mary's Church Hall. (c) 7 Newcastle Road. (d) Pennywell: St. Thomas's Church Hall.
Wed'sday	Millfield: St. Mark's Church Hall.	Millfield: St. Mark's Church Hall.
Thursday	(a) Millfield: St. Mark's Church Hall. (b) Central: The Citadel, Lambton Street. (c) 7 Newcastle Road.	(a) Monkwearmouth: Dock St. Church Hall. (b) Pallion: St. Mary Magdalene's Church Hall. (c) Humbledon: Ettrick Grove Wesleyan Chapel.
Friday	7 Newcastle Road	(a) Fulwell: Priestman Hall. (b) Hendon: St. Barnabas Church Hall.

Ante-Natal Clinics.—The number of ante-natal sessions held weekly during 1951 was 5. One session had to be closed for 12 weeks owing to the shortage of Medical Staff.

Attendances compared with two previous years are shown hereunder:—

Year.	Primary attendances.	Subsequent attendances.
1949	1249	3043
1950	954	2440
1951	703	1692

Post-Natal Clinics.—One session weekly continued at The Citadel, Lambton Street and a second session at Newcastle Road. 163 new cases were examined and 299 subsequent visits were made.

Non-V.D. Clinics.—Sessions continued to be held in conjunction with the Post-Natal Clinics. 72 primary attendances were made and 148 subsequent visits.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The following table shows the total number of children, who were immunised during the year compared with 1950.

Year	0-1 yrs.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Total
1950	940	319	139	33	13	1493
1951	1221	708	386	239	116	2670

“Boosting” Doses.—1126 injections were given to children who had been previously immunised.

A six weeks’ Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign was held between 21st May and 30th June, 1951, on the following lines:—

- (i) Concentration of Health Visitors’ District Visits on babies between 8 months and 1 year of age, and on children between 4 years 9 months and 5 years.
- (ii) Constant use of Mobile Unit on districts and at Infant Welfare Sessions.
- (iii) Films—“Defeat Diphtheria,” etc. at Infant Welfare Sessions by Mobile Unit from the Central Office of Information.
- (iv) Two evening film shows were given at Newcastle Road premises.
- (v) Press advertisements.

The above items were in addition to the routine propaganda.

Vaccinations.—1480 primary vaccinations were successful. 450 revaccinations were carried out.

Health Visitors.—There were 1 Superintendent and 15 Health Visitors on the staff at the end of the year instead of the full establishment of 1 Superintendent and 22 Health Visitors.

One Health Visitor continued to act as a full time Almoner for the V.D. Department of the Royal Infirmary.

3 Student Health Visitors completed training at Newcastle-upon-Tyne and joined the Staff for two years’ service after obtaining the Health Visitors’ Certificate.

During the year Health Visitors paid 35,877 visits to Homes, in addition to attendances at Infant Welfare Centres, Ante-natal and special clinics. Details of these visits are given in tabular form on page 20.

Municipal Midwifery Service.—There were 1 non-medical Supervisor, 1 Deputy non-medical Supervisor and 23 Midwives, on the established staff, but at no time during the year was there a full complement of Midwives.

During the year the following cases were attended by Municipal Midwives:—

Midwifery cases 724, requiring 17,713 nursing visits.

Maternity cases 982, requiring 27,252 nursing visits.

Miscarriages attended 4.

Ante-natal visits to patients 10,132.

Post-natal visits to patients 3,415.

Municipal Midwives continued to "follow up" cases discharged from the Sunderland Maternity Hospital before completion of puerperium. There were 1,046 cases referred as requiring further nursing and 4,508 visits were made.

District Nursing Association.—Domiciliary Midwifery:—The following cases were taken by Midwives of the District Nursing Association:—

Midwifery cases 142, requiring 4,244 nursing visits.

Maternity cases 403, requiring 11,241 nursing visits.

Miscarriages attended, 11.

Ante-natal visits to patients, 5,356.

Post-natal visits to patients, 1,802.

Gas and Air Analgesia.—

Number of cases in which Analgesia was administered by:—

Year	(a) Municipal Midwives	(b) Midwives of District Nursing Association
1949	229	48
1950	239	112
1951	311	55

Sunderland School Period Training School.—The Second period training of pupil midwives continued throughout the year. 43 pupils completed their training. 35 pupils were successful in obtaining their certificates at the first attempt and 6 of the failures satisfied the examiners at the second attempt.

Premature Infants.

There were 259 notifications of premature live births received of cases resident in the County Borough. 116 of this number were born at home and, with the exception of 10 transferred to Hospital, were nursed entirely at home.

10 neo-natal deaths occurred in those nursed at home.

Deaths occurring from accidental Mechanical Suffocation.—None.

Deaths by violence.—None.

Domestic Helps.—Domestic Help was provided as follows:—

Maternity cases (including expectant mothers) ...	309
Tuberculosis	19
Cases over 65 years of age	369
Others	199
 Total	 896

At the end of the year 20 whole-time and 165 part-time Helps were employed, equivalent to 120 Helps working full-time. Help in the home has varied from a few hours daily to full-time service.

Ultra Violet Radiation.—128 mothers and children made 4,986 attendances for U.V.R. treatment at the Health Department. 64 pre-school children made 678 attendances at the Southwick school clinic where two sessions weekly continued with the exception of school holidays.

Treatment was given for the following conditions:—

	Thornholme (Health Dept.)	Southwick.
Rickets	26	21
Debility	97	43
Bronchitis	5	—
 128	 ...	 64

Minor Ailments.—20 pre-school children made 28 attendances.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—92 pre-school children suffering from defective vision were examined and glasses were prescribed in 42 cases.

N.S.P.C.C.—4 new cases were referred to this Society.

Illegitimate Children.—Unmarried expectant mothers and married women expecting illegitimate children continued to be referred to the Moral Welfare Officer.

Cases during 1951 were:—

Unmarried mothers	...	...	...	...	60
Married women with illegitimate children				...	12
Widows with illegitimate children	...			...	2
Divorced women with illegitimate children	...			...	1

Parker Memorial Home for Unmarried Mothers.—

Girls admitted during 1951	...	...	...	18
Babies admitted during 1951	...	...	...	17

Nine babies were discharged from the Home with their mothers and in addition eight babies were discharged with a view to adoption.

Girls are referred to Hospital for delivery.

Average length of stay:—

Ante-natal period	...	...	...	...	27 days.
Post-natal period	...	...	...	...	23 days.

Registration of Nursing Homes.—One nursing home is on the register. No unregistered homes were discovered during the year and no applications for registration were received.

Blind Persons Act.—Visits to partially blind persons on the register are in the table of Health Visitors' visits.

Day Nurseries.—St. Marks' Day Nursery, Chester Road and Thompson Park Day Nursery both admit children from 0—5 years and have accommodation for 50 children each. There are long waiting lists for admission to both nurseries and admission is given to priority cases only.

Two candidates entered for the examination of the National Nursery Examination Board, and were successful in obtaining the certificate.

Nurseries and Child Minder's Act, 1948.—No applications for registration were received during the year.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

Dental Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and of Pre-School Children.

Dental treatment was given to expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children during the year but on a more restricted scale in the case of the adults than in the previous year.

Owing to insufficient staff the greater part of the treatment was emergency and consisted in the extraction of aching and septic teeth. It is hoped, however, that in 1952, when additions shall have been made to the dental staff, we may be able to inaugurate a more comprehensive scheme for the priority groups.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care:

		Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Number of Attendances	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	142	121	70	112	28	
Children under five	... 619	550	550	580	—	

(b) Forms of treatment provided:

	Extractions	Anæsthetics		Fillings	Sealings or Scaling & Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressings	Radiographs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	210	96	8	3	6	—	33	—	4	—
Children under five ...	799	—	542	8	—	—	46	—	—	—

National Health Service Act, 1946.—Work done by the Sunderland District Nursing Association on behalf of the Council as Local Health Authority:—

HOME NURSING

Number of Home Nurses employed at 31st December, 1951—Whole-time on Home Nursing	...	21
Number on 31st December, 1951—Part-time on Home Nursing	...	6
Number of cases attended by Home Nurses in 1951	...	1,801
Number of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year	...	75,821

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47) AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

This Section deals with the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. One case (a man of 76 years) was removed under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

VISITS MADE BY HEALTH VISITORS, 1951.

District	Total No. Visits	Deaths	Births	Infants of Revistis	First Visits, Chilidren 1 yr. and over	Revistis Neonatrum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarhoea	Pneumonia	Domestic Helps	Immunis- ation	Partially Blinde	T.B.	Aged and Infirm			
					1st and over 1 yr.	2nd and over 1 yr.	3rd and over 1 yr.	4th and over 1 yr.	5th and over 1 yr.	6th and over 1 yr.	7th and over 1 yr.	8th and over 1 yr.	9th and over 1 yr.	10th and over 1 yr.	11th and over 1 yr.	12th and over 1 yr.		
No. 1	2520	14	374	241	83	632	33	—	111	118	—	7	—	354	548	1	4	
2																		
3	2909	8	217	457	882	987	149	—	101	52	—	7	—	—	—	16	33	
4	2197	7	199	508	91	1075	56	—	119	60	—	45	—	20	—	47	—	
5	769	7	141	149	40	330	15	—	32	39	—	2	—	7	—	7	—	
6	2942	10	232	513	298	1405	42	5	133	69	—	8	—	37	187	1	2	
7	1064	10	158	174	74	495	9	—	82	44	—	4	—	7	—	7	—	
8	2395	13	189	394	266	1295	69	—	78	48	—	7	—	10	—	2	24	
9	1956	4	150	387	82	1116	51	—	48	87	—	12	—	19	—	—	1	
10	1592	2	136	221	136	978	—	—	80	20	—	3	—	15	—	—	—	
11	1719	1	175	454	292	611	29	—	88	33	—	6	—	30	—	—	—	
12	3003	8	310	536	160	1611	6	1	107	77	—	5	—	33	136	1	12	
13	1385	5	216	204	196	616	8	—	71	44	—	16	—	8	—	—	1	
14	1781	3	174	195	35	1165	—	1	110	64	—	3	—	7	—	24	—	
15	2672	11	208	614	461	1074	79	—	180	22	—	5	2	16	—	—	—	
16	2374	6	235	529	339	1057	59	—	87	41	—	6	—	9	—	2	4	
17	1857	7	131	316	23	1159	48	—	121	45	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	
18	2742	4	197	400	162	1783	50	—	78	24	—	7	1	10	—	3	23	
TOTALS	35877	120	3442	6292	3620	17389	703	7	1626	887	—	113	3	589	871	10	171	

WORK DONE BY MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES, 1951.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water. The source of supply remains unchanged and the quality and quantity satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewage. 5,187 lineal yards of new sewers were laid during the year under review by the Borough Surveyor and during the year 309 feet of cast-iron drains and 7,592 feet of stone-ware drains have been laid.

Rivers and Streams. No action has been taken for the prevention of pollution of the river Wear which takes the effluent from 13 sewers.

Owing to the fact that the river Wear is a tidal river and taking sewage, little can be done to prevent or mitigate pollution.

Closet Accommodation. During the year 145 broken or otherwise defective watercloset basins were replaced by new washdown pedestal basins.

Below will be found a table showing the conveniences in the Borough at the end of 1951:—

Houses, &c., with water-closets and movable ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	40.675
Houses, &c., with ashpits, privies and ashpits pan privies, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	73x

x These are not within a reasonable distance of a sewer.

Public Cleansing. The amount of domestic refuse removed during 1951 was 68,969 tons; street refuse 5,150 tons; salvage (including kitchen waste) 2,180 tons. In addition 42,474 gullies were emptied.

The arrangement for removal of house refuse remains efficient, the whole of the removal being carried out by means of closed carts.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The number of visits made during the period under review by the District Inspectors (including inspections, advisory visits, etc.) was 18,951.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY THE
DISTRICT INSPECTORS.

Houses	Appointments or advice ...	...	...	...	...	...	454
and	Infectious Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	281
Premises:	Infectious Disease Contacts ...	...	...	...	...	...	81
visits or	Alleged Nuisances ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,910
examina-	House to House work ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,489
tions on	Housing Acts ...	...	...	...	...	...	84
account of	Occupants ...	...	...	...	...	...	489
	Drainage ...	...	...	...	...	...	924
	Work in progress ...	...	...	...	...	...	8,465
	Information (Ownerships, etc.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	273
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Schools (inspection of conveniences, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Public Sanitary Conveniences (including licensed houses, places of entertainment, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Vans, tents, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Stables, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Streams, ditches, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other visits and Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,149
						Total Inspections ...	18,951

NOTICES SERVED IN CONSEQUENCE OF NUISANCES, &c.
FOUND DURING INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Nature of Notice	Intimation		Statutory		Total Notices
	Own-er	Occu-pier	Own-er	Occu-pier	
To—					
Cleanse or repair drains	—	—	297	—	297
Renew drains	2	—	16	—	18
Renew defective watercloset basin ...	4	—	175	—	179
Cleanse dirty watercloset basin	2	22	17	—	41
Cleanse dirty floor, seat, etc. of watercloset	—	25	12	—	37
Repair seat, roof, door of watercloset	592	—	—	—	592
Renew or repair flushing cistern ...	24	—	140	—	170
Renew or repair flushing pipe	7	—	70	—	77
Provide additional watercloset(s) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Provide water supply to watercloset...	2	—	20	—	22
Abolish waste watercloset	—	—	1	—	1
Abolish privies and substitute water- closets	—	—	—	—	—
Repair or renew soil or vent pipe ...	21	—	15	—	36
" " bath waste pipe ...	5	—	—	—	5
" " lavatory waste pipe	3	—	—	—	3
" " sink waste pipe ...	31	—	1	—	32
Provide new urinal	—	—	—	—	—
Repair or cleanse urinal	3	—	—	—	3
Abolish ashpit and provide dustbin...	—	—	—	—	—
Repair or renew dustbin	148	—	6	—	154
Provide additional dustbin(s)	162	—	—	—	162
Cleanse dirty rooms or houses	—	25	—	1	26
Cleanse dirty bedding etc.	—	6	—	—	6
Limewash staircase walls, yard walls, conveniences, etc.	1	—	—	—	1
Repair windows, walls, floors, ceilings, etc.	3949	—	—	—	3949
Remedy damp walls	1018	—	—	—	1018
Provide light and ventilation	49	—	—	—	49
Repair roof	1310	—	—	—	1310
Repair or renew spouts	1145	—	—	—	1145
Abate overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Provide domestic water supply	13	—	—	—	13
Provide or repair yard pavement ..	170	—	—	—	170
Cleanse yard pavement	13	14	—	—	37
Remove offensive accumulations	31	2	7	—	40
Remove manure	—	—	1	—	1
Abate nuisance from the keeping of animals, etc.	—	—	—	—	—
Provide or renew manure pit	—	—	—	—	—
Pave or repair stable or byre floor...	1	—	—	—	1
Cleanse streams, ditches, etc.	1	—	12	—	13
Abate other nuisances	1371	1	—	—	1372
TOTALS	10688	95	796	1	10980

DRAIN TESTING.

	Nature of Test			Total	Defective
	Water	Chemical	Smoke		
On Request	218	—	2	220	50
On Complaint	4	1	—	5	3
On Suspicion of Nuisance	9	—	5	14	5
On Account of Infectious Diseases	—	—	—	—	—
Work in Progress	403	—	22	425	40
Retested	50	—	—	50	5
TOTALS ...	684	1	29	714	103

NOISANCE ABATED AND WORK PERFORMED.

Drains cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	272
Drains renewed (length) :—				ft.
Metal 4 in.	...	...	...	309
Stoneware 4 in.	...	...	...	7578
Stoneware 6 in.	...	...	...	14
Watercloset basin renewed	...	...	...	145
Watercloset basin cleansed	...	...	...	66
Watercloset, floor, seat, &c., cleansed	...	...	...	28
Watercloset seat, roof, door repaired	...	...	...	506
Watercloset cistern renewed or repaired	...	...	...	179
Watercloset flushpipe renewed or repaired	...	...	...	70
Watercloset additional provided	...	...	...	2
Watercloset water supply provided	...	...	...	18
Waste watercloset abolished	...	...	...	—
Privy abolished and watercloset substituted	...	...	...	—
Soil or vent pipe repaired or renewed	...	...	...	29
Bath waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Lavatory waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	3
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	24
New urinal provided	...	...	...	—
Urinal repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	3
Ashpit abolished and dustbin provided	...	...	...	—
Dustbin repaired or renewed	...	...	...	136
Dustbin additional provided	...	...	...	131
Dirty rooms or houses cleansed	...	...	...	31
Dirty Bedding, &c., cleansed	...	...	...	8
Staircase walls, yard walls, conveniences, &c., limewashed	...	...	...	1
Windows, walls, floors, ceilings, &c., repaired	...	...	...	3377
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	792
Light and Ventilation provided	...	...	...	39
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	1096
Spouts renewed or repaired	...	...	...	1009

Overcrowding abated	—
Domestic water supply provided	12
Yard pavement provided or repaired	130
Yard pavement cleansed	26
Offensive accumulations removed	32
Manure, &c., removed	1
Keeping of animals, nuisance abated	1
Manure pit provided or renewed	—
Stable or byre floors paved or repaired ...	—
Streams, ditches, &c., cleansed	13
Other nuisances abated	1167

Legal Proceedings:—During the past year legal proceedings were instituted in respect of 8 cases, viz., 2 (in respect of one offence) of selling fish cakes deficient in fish content to the extent of 44.8% of the minimal amount which resulted in fines of £10 for each defendant; 1 of selling bottled milk containing foreign matter which also resulted in a £10 fine; 2 (in respect of one offence) of selling pork sausage deficient in meat content to the extent of 21.5% of the minimal amount as a result of which one defendant was fined £10 and costs and the other case dismissed; and 3 of vending ice-cream deficient in fat to the extent of 40%, 56% and 26% respectively of the minimal amount, for which a fine of £5 and costs was imposed in each case.

Common Lodging Houses.—There are only three common lodging houses in the Borough and these provide accommodation for 268 lodgers. The high standard of cleanliness and conduct was again maintained as in former years.

Offensive Trades.—The number of establishments carrying on offensive trades in the Borough is as follows:—

Skin (Gut and Casings) Preparing Houses	...	1
Fish Curing Houses ... ... ...	...	—
Marine Stores (Rag and Bone, etc., dealers)	...	7
Hide and Skin Warehouses ... ...	...	—
Tripe Preparers ... ... ...	...	3
Knackery ... ... ...	...	1

Plans.—The practice of all plans for new buildings being submitted to this office for examination in relation to sanitary works has been continued throughout the year. This is an important connection between the Building Surveyor and the Health Department. The total number of plans examined and commented upon was 563.

DRAINAGE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH NEW BUILDINGS

The following work has been carried out during the year by the Inspector engaged for this particular branch of the Department.

DRAINAGE INSPECTOR'S REPORT.
WORK CARRIED OUT.

Type of Tests	Number of Tests	Faults—% of Total	Re-tests	Final tests of Completed Buildings	Certificates Issued	Interviews and advice	Inspections of work in progress
SMOKE	604	7	1.15	5	1004	490	1424
WATER	7365	169	2.29	183			
TOTALS	7969	176	2.2	188	1004		1914

ANALYSIS OF DRAINAGE TESTED.

STONEWARE		CAST-IRON		Total
		4"	6"	
SMOKE	1525	2739	567	9157
WATER	11835	20928	1211	11205
TOTAL				14038
				145231
				159269

FIGURES INDICATE NUMBER OF RUNNING FEET

Rat Repression.—Particulars of the work done by the three Rodent Operatives are given in the subjoined table:—

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	831
Premises inspected on receipt of complaint and otherwise	...	...	...	...	1,140
Rats caught by traps, or killed by hand or poisoned	...	...	...	...	7,909
Number of poison baits laid	...	...	...	...	22,449
Number of traps set	...	...	...	...	360
Visits for purpose of observation, work in progress or work done	...	...	...	...	3,263

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951:—This Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928 and came into force on the 1st November, 1951. Under the provisions of the 1951 Act, premises where, with certain exceptions, upholstering, bedding manufacturing, stuffing of toys, etc., is carried on, have to be registered. Thirteen premises in the Borough were registered during the year under review and in addition, two premises were licensed under the Act for the storage of rag flock.

No samples of rag flock were taken during 1951.

Camping Sites.—There are no sites in the Borough licensed for this particular purpose.

Smoke Abatement.—There has been some improvement with regard to smoke emission in the Borough during the past year. In two factories the management were advised to use coke instead of coal and this proved quite satisfactory. In another instance where there had been complaints due to the emission of an excessive amount of grit, it was possible to arrange with the N.C.B. for an alternative supply of coal which greatly reduced the amount of grit and since the use of this coal there have been no further complaints from this area.

Although at times some of the coal supplied to various factories in the Borough is of an inferior quality it is possible with reasonable care and attention to firing to reduce considerably both the volume and the density of the smoke emitted.

39 visits were paid to premises in connection with smoke abatement and 11 smoke observations carried out.

Wells.—No samples of water were taken during the year under review. Two samples were taken from the towns main supply. Both were satisfactory.

Swimming Baths. 18 visits were made to the three public swimming baths in the Borough. 6 Samples of water taken during the year were satisfactory.

28
The SHOPS ACT, 1950 (Sections 37, 38)

The following work has been performed by the Inspector appointed for the purpose:—

Sub-Sections	Inspections	Notices served		Complied with
		Verbal	Written	
To provide and maintain suitable ventilation		6	4	10
To provide and maintain reasonable temperature		8	2	10
To provide and maintain suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation	14	2		16
To provide suitable and sufficient lighting		2	1	3
To provide and maintain washing facilities	4	2		6
To provide and maintain facilities for meals		—	—	—
To provide seats for female employees		4	—	4
TOTALS ...	491	38	11	49

Public Health Act 1936 (in relation to business premises).—

Under this heading are included offices and other workplaces which are not included under the headings Shops, Factories and Food Premises.

	Inspections	Defects found	Notices served		Defects remedied
			Intimation	Statutory	
Sanitary Accommodation		28	19	—	28
Other nuisances		33	30	21	33
TOTALS ...	183	61	49	21	61

**PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933 (Health Provisions)
PART II POISONS**

Total number of licences issued, 91.

Particulars.	Inspections	Infringe- ments	Infringe- ments remedied
Bottling		1	1
Labelling		4	4
Storage		11	11
TOTALS ...	220	16	16

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938, SECTIONS 13 and 14.

Under this heading are included all premises where food is prepared, stored, sold, etc.,

	Inspections	Infringements	
		Found	Remedied
Shops, warehouses, factories, bakeries, restaurant kitchens, cafes, snack bars, canteens, etc.	1741	371	371

FACTORY ACT, 1937—1949 AND THE SANITARY ACCOMMODATION REGULATIONS 1938.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises Inspected.	Inspections	Number of	
		Notices served	
		Intimation	Statutory
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	142	49	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	378	101	5
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	32	3	—
TOTALS	552	153	5

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecu-tions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	47	47	—	—	2
Overcrowding (S.2)	8	8	1	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	3	3	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	16	16	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) insufficient	14	14	—	—	3
Conveniences unsuitable or defective	94	94	—	—	3
not separate for sexes	4	3	—	—	1
Other Offences:					
(Not including offences relating to work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL 188	187	—	1	9	Nil

Number of outworkers employed in the Borough, 3.

Underground Bakehouses. Only 2 bakehouses under this heading are licensed in the Borough.

MINISTRY OF FOOD CIRCULAR M.F. 7/49.

The requirements of this Circular dealing with cleanliness of food premises, etc., have been carried out and are receiving high priority in the Sanitary Inspectors' visits. The work is covered in the foregoing tables. The Sunderland Voluntary Food Traders Guild continues to function in the town to further Food Hygiene amongst our shops and workpeople. Lectures to the staffs of the larger food premises, Traders Associations and Townswomens Guilds, etc., have been given by the Senior Inspectors to help in obtaining a generally higher standard of hygiene in our Food premises.

Dysentery (including Sonnei).—During the year there were 18 cases of dysentery.

All necessary precautions to prevent a severe outbreak were taken by my Department.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS
YEAR, 1951.

APPENDIX D. (i).

Food Poisoning Notifications Returned to R.G.—1st quarter, 12; 2nd quarter, 12; 3rd quarter, 7; 4th quarter 2; Total, 33.

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents.—Total outbreaks, 1. Total cases, 14.

Outbreaks due to:—

- (a) Chemical Poisons, Nil.
- (b) Salmonella Organisms, 1
- (c) Staphylococci, Nil.
- (d) C.1. botulinum, Nil.
- (e) Other bacteria, Nil.

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:—Total outbreaks, Nil Total cases, Nil.

Single cases.—Agent identified, 8; unknown cause, 11. Total, 19.

APPENDIX D. (ii).

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK (Summary of Details)

Para-Typhoid B Fever Outbreak in Sunderland County Borough between 5th January and 6th April, 1951.

1. **Food Causing Outbreak:** Synthetic cream suspected from a bakehouse.

Agent Causing Outbreak:

Salmonella Paratyphoid B. Phage Type (1) isolated from all cases.

2. **Cases Forming Outbreak:**

Total Notified: 14. Total ascertained: 14. Fatal: Nil.

3. **Clinical Features:**

Average Interval ingestion to onset: 10—14 days.

Main symptoms: Diarrhoea, headache, abdominal pains, fever.

Severity of illness: Mild to severe.

Duration of illness: 6—10 weeks.

4. **Results of Laboratory Investigation:**

Cases: 14

Food Handlers: 1.

Food samples: 30

Other: 1.

All foods examined were found to be negative, these included milk, cream cakes, trifles, etc.

Sewage taken from the drains of the suspected bakehouse was found to be negative.

Specimens of faeces and urine obtained from contacts of patients were found to be negative.

The whole staff of the bakehouse suspected as the cause of the outbreak was interviewed and specimens taken. Two persons were found to be suffering from the disease:—

- (a) Canteen Supervisor.
- (b) Telephonist.

N.B.—Both these people insisted they did not handle any food in the bakehouse (see detailed report).

5. Origin and Preparation of Food Causing Illness:

Not proved satisfactorily—but bakehouse suspected.

6. Place where food causing illness was consumed:

Assumed it was confectionery—at home, at a cafe or a party.

Estimated number of consumers at risk: Not known.

The responsible caterers have—retail shops,
restaurants,

A large outside
catering busi-
ness.

7. Probable Origin of Infection of Food:

At the Central Bakehouse.

Contributory Factors: None. The bakehouse is modern and holds a Certificate of Hygiene (Sunderland Voluntary Food Traders Guild of Hygiene).

Details of Outbreak.

Case No. 1 was reported 5th January, 1951. Onset was 26th December, 1950. Enquiries were made. There was no other similar illness at school. The child had attended a party at School, but no other child was ill. Suspected food was sampled and analysed without result. The Phage Type (I) was new to the district. No carrier was known in the area.

Case No. 2 had been admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, as suspected meningitis case and transferred to Infectious Diseases Hospital after *S. paratyphi B.* had been isolated from the patient's stools. This patient was a shop assistant and had had no known contact with the previous case.

Common factors, between food consumed by the patients were:—

- (i) Bread from Messrs. Z. of Sunderland; other bread had also been eaten by both patients.
- (ii) Mineral water (not exclusively from one firm).
- (iii) Cream cakes from Messrs. X. of Sunderland, bought at two different shops.

Case No. 1 had eaten cream cakes from two other bakers. Further samples of cakes were taken—all specimens were negative.

Case No. 3 was a grocer's child. The grocer also supplied food to Case No. 1. The child attended the same school as No. 1. Extensive enquiries were made to no purpose. Samples of excreta and urine from the grocer's family were negative. Cakes had been eaten from Messrs. X., bought at the same shop as No. 1.

Messrs. X. are a large local firm. They have a central bakehouse in Sunderland also

Retail Shops.
Restaurants.
A large Outside Catering Business.

In all nearly 300 persons are employed and the output of cream cakes is very large. The majority of people in Sunderland eat them at one time or another. They have a first class hygienic bakehouse and have a good reputation.

The evidence at hand was not sufficient to warrant drastic action, no harmful bacteria had been isolated from the samples of food taken from the firm.

After consultation with Dr. Crone of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Sunderland and the proprietor of the business, we decided to take specimens of sewage from the drains of the central bakehouse, as more than one shop was involved. No paratyphoid bacteria were isolated from a number of swabs inserted in the drains and left for varying periods—24 to 48 hours. Further cases were notified (all of the same phage type) and when other possibilities such as parties, etc., had been eliminated (one party connected cases No. 7 and 11) Messrs. X. appeared to be our only common factor.

We had no conclusive evidence that this bakehouse was responsible for the outbreak, but we decided to take specimens from all the staff of the central bakehouse. The total number of persons employed on the premises at the time of inquiry was 106. The staff were grouped under the following headings in order of priority:—

- (a) Persons handling food who had joined the staff since the beginning of the outbreak.
- (b) All other persons handling food sold to the Public.
- (c) Administrative staff, clerks, staff canteen employees, etc.

Each member of the staff was interviewed and questioned re movement over the period from December, 1950. Special attention was given to illness particularly removal to hospital, infectious disease, etc. No useful information was gained.

S. paratyphi B. organisms were isolated from the faeces or urine of the following persons:—

- (i) Mrs. H. R. of Sunderland.

Canteen Supervisor—(insisted she never enters bakehouse or preparation room). Married to a workman in the bakehouse.

- (ii) Mrs. E. R. of Murton, Co. Durham.

Telephonist—(insisted she does not enter bakehouse etc. or handle food).

Mrs. H. R. was suspended from duty. Her husband was advised to change his clothes before commencing work and pay special attention to personal hygiene and not use the staff toilets. Similar instructions as to Mr. H. R. were given to Mrs. E. R.

No further cases were reported in the Borough after Mrs. H. R. left the premises.

Conclusion:

It would appear that Mrs. H. R. was responsible for the outbreak, either by use of the staff toilets or by her husband carrying infection from home to the bakehouse. The large output of cakes manufactured on the premises, compared with the number of cases, proved at any rate an intermittent infection.

Four further specimens of excreta and urine were obtained from Mrs. H. R. at weekly intervals and were found negative. She was allowed to return to work. No further cases have been reported.

Mrs. E. R. has given three further specimens all of which were found negative.

It was then decided that the outbreak had ceased.

The above-mentioned outbreak entailed:—

782 visits, enquiries, etc., of persons and food premises.

238 examinations of faeces, urine and food.

260 hours of inspection and office duties.

SECTION E.**HOUSING.****HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951.**

Number of new houses erected during the year	1133
Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4972
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	13936
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	277
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2224
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	93
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1809
Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1105
Action under statutory Powers during the year:—	
A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	184
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	169
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	30

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ... ... ... ...	2227
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:		
(a) By owners	... ... ... ... ...	1970
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	... ... ... ... ...	59

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ... ... ...	74
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ... ... ...	46

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ... ... ...	19
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ... ... ...	Nil

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY HOUSING INSPECTORS
UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1936, etc.

Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 9 notices	184
Other visits under Section 9	302
Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 11 notices	74
Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 12 notices	19
Houses inspected under Section 10 (Work in Default)	71
Other visits under Sections 11, 12 and 13	182
Inspections of properties in Slum Clearance Areas	260
Special inspections	20
Inspections on complaints	42
Inspections of work in progress	809
Visits in respect of ownerships, land charges, etc.	84
Inspections re Defence Regulations 68C A.	29
Appointments and interviews	583

CLEARANCE AREA, No. 68—LOW PALLION

Urgent requirements by Messrs. Doxford's for industrial expansion of a large portion of the Low Pallion Clearance Area No. 68 necessitated inspections to obtain the names of all the families and the number in each family occupying the 74 houses within the boundary of Messrs. Doxford's proposed extension.

The names and addresses of the 113 families comprising 353 persons were tabulated on the four sections and forwarded to the Housing Department for the purpose of re-housing.

DEMOLITION ORDERS—SECTION 11.

Demolition Orders under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 were served in respect of 74 Houses. Of this number, 15 houses were vacant or derelict and dangerous, the remaining 59 dwelling houses were occupied by 102 families, comprising 376 persons.

The names of the 102 families were submitted to the Housing Department for the purpose of rehousing.

Five Undertakings were accepted for four properties to be used for other purposes than dwellings and one undertaking to repair a cottage when vacated to ensure its use for a few more years.

CLOSING ORDERS—SECTION 12.

Under Section 12, Closing Orders were served in respect of 5 occupied and 6 vacant basements and 6 occupied and 2 vacant parts of houses, making a total of 19 Closing Orders. The names of the 11 families comprising 40 persons were submitted to the Housing Department for the purpose of rehousing.

NOTICES FOR REPAIRS UNDER SECTION 9

Owners or Agents not responsive to the Intimation Notices served necessitated the serving of 184 Section 9 Notices of the Housing Act, 1936, for the necessary repairs to be carried out to make the houses reasonably fit for human habitation.

REPAIRS COMPLETED UNDER SECTIONS 9 AND 10

169 houses were repaired and rendered fit by the owners after the service of Section 9 notices and the Corporation repaired a further 30 houses in default, under Section 10.

SECTION F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply. The supervision of all premises where milk is pasteurised, sterilised, stored or sold was carried out and the cleanliness of these premises maintained. Regular sampling of milk was carried out at pasteurising and sterilising depots in the town and the majority of these samples were satisfactory. Of 299 samples of pasteurised milks submitted to phosphatase and Methylene Blue Reduction Tests, 16 samples failed. Of 28 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk 14 samples failed the Methylene Blue Reduction Tests, although in some instances the time lag between the actual production of the milk and delivery to the consumer put these samples "out of time" so far as the statutory tests are concerned. Three samples of accredited milk were submitted for examination: all were satisfactory. Where samples of Raw Designated milk were not satisfactory, the Ministry of Agriculture was notified.

13 samples of raw designated milk and 71 samples of raw ungraded milk were submitted for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. None was positive.

Arising out of a complaint regarding the supply of milk in a dirty bottle, a Dairy Company was successfully prosecuted under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. The milk bottle in question, being a half-pint bottle, contained approximately fifty small brown objects which at first glance appeared to be small brown seeds. The defence alleged that these were in fact the puparial stage of the insect known as *Drosophila Busckii*. Microscopic inspection of these objects showed that they were the chrysalis cases of an insect and it was impossible to identify the particular insect. These pupae cases cannot be removed by passing through the normal bottlewashing machine as when the eggs are laid they are coated by a fluid which fastens the eggs to the surface of the bottle. Although these cases would not be easily discernible in a dirty bottle they are fairly obvious after the bottle has been filled with milk and should be detected at the filling machine or by the roundsman.

Dairies and Milkshops. The following table shows the number of registered Dairies and Milkshops in the Borough:—

Number of Dairies and Milkshops in the Borough on the register on 31st December, 1951:—

Ordinary	...	...	...	...	6
In sealed bottles only	...	...	...	...	206
Dairies	...	...	...	...	47

— 259 —

Number added to the Register during the year:—

Dairies	...	...	...	...	2
Sealed bottles (Sterilized milk)	...				62

Number removed from the Register during the year:—

Dairy	1
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number on Register on 31st December, 1951:—

Ordinary	...	...	...	...	6
In sealed bottles only	...	...	...	...	268
Dairies	...	...	...	...	48
					— 322

The following visits were paid during the year by the Milk and Dairies Inspector in connection with the Milk and Dairies and Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949:—

To Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	673
To Railway Stations	...	...	...	22

NUMBER OF MILK SAMPLES SUBJECTED TO ANALYTICAL EXAMINATION FOR THE ESTIMATE OF MILKFAT, NON-FATTY SOLIDS OR ADDED WATER, METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION, COLIFORM PHOSPHATASE TURBIDITY AND BIOLOGICAL TESTS DURING 1951.

Chemical Analysis—

Milk	186
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Coliform Tests—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	28
Accredited Milk	...	...	3

Biological Examination—

Non-designated Milk	...	...	71
Designated Milk	...	...	13

MILK SAMPLES TAKEN FOR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION. SOURCE OF SUPPLY.

Local Farmers	Local Dairymen per		Durham	North-umberland	Other Sources	Total	No. Positive
	Rail	Farmers					
14	—	70	83	1	—	84	Nil

Number of Samples taken under Raw Milk (Special Designations) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations, 1949.

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	184
T.T. Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	115
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	22

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) RAW MILK REGULATIONS, 1949,

MILK, (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK REGULATIONS, 1949.

Results of Samples of designated milks taken during the year for the purpose of bacteriological examination.

Samples were taken from two pasteurising and sterilising establishments and from persons granted dealers licences under the above Regulations.

The total number of samples taken was 352 and these are classified below:—

	T'berculin Tested	Accredited	Pasteurised	T.T. Pasteurised	Sterilized	Total	Test Invalid Temp. 65° F.
SATISFACTORY	14	3	169	110	22	318	4
UNSATISFACTORY	14	—	13	3	—	30	—
TOTALS ...	28	3	182	113	22	348	4

352 samples were taken and 30 failed to satisfy the statutory tests. The results of the examination of 4 samples were invalid due to the fact that at the time the samples were taken the maximum overnight temperature exceeded 65°F. Where samples of raw designated milk were stated to have failed the test, this was reported to the Ministry of Agriculture.

DESIGNATED MILKS AND ISSUE OF LICENCES

Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations), Raw Milk Regulations and Milk Special Designations (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations 1949:—

Dealers (Pasteurisers) licences	...	...	...	2
,, (Sterilisers)	,,	...	...	1
,, (Pasteurised)	,,	...	...	53
,, (Sterilised)	,,	...	...	316
Supplementary Dealers (Pasteurised) licences	...	...	...	5
,, , (Sterilised)	,,	...	...	3
,, , (Tuberculin Tested) licences	4			

Ice-cream Factories, Merchants and Dealers. A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained in all premises where ice-cream is manufactured, sold and stored. Frequent inspections were carried out at all premises during the process of manufacturing ice-cream and also supervision of the cleansing and sterilisation of equipment. There was again some improvement in the bacteriological grading of ice-cream manufactured in the Borough, 80.0% of samples taken in 1951 as compared with 76.25% of samples taken in 1950 satisfied the Methylene Blue Reduction test. The average fat content of 35 samples of ice-cream submitted for chemical analysis during the year was 6.12%; the figure for 1950 being 4.87% fat.

The Food Standards (Ice-cream) Order became operative on 1st March, 1951. This made a legal standard for ice-cream, viz., 5% fat, 10% sugar and 7½% milk solids not fat. Legal action under this Order was taken against three local manufacturers who were each fined £5.

RESULTS OF SAMPLES OF ICE-CREAM
SUBMITTED FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

0-2.5% fat 6	2.5%-5% fat 7	5%-7.5% fat 10	7.5%-10% fat 7	10% & over 5
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RESULTS OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION
METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST

Grade 1 128 }	Satisfactory ... 152
Grade 2 24 }	
Grade 3 22 }	Unsatisfactory ... 36
Grade 4 14 }	
<hr/>	
188	
<hr/>	

The number of manufacturers in the town on the 31st December, 1951, was 21 and the number of factories 19, the number of retail shops 259.

The number of visits to manufacturers and vendors during the year was 963.

FOOD POISONING.

30 samples of various foods were taken and examined for organisms, but the results were negative.

For Annual Return see page 31.

ADULTERATION, &c.

The number of samples analysed under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the Borough during the year was 394 and these may be classified as follows:—

	Number.	Percentage of Total Samples.
Milk	186	47.20
Butter and Margarine ...	12	3.05
Compound Articles ...	22	5.58
Miscellaneous	154	39.10
Drugs	20	5.07

Of the 394 samples examined 32 (8.12 per cent) were non-genuine; while in 1950 of 324 samples examined 13 (4.0 per cent) were non-genuine.

The 32 non-genuine samples were dealt with as follows:—

Legal action with respect to five samples. Letters of caution from the Food Executive Committee with respect to three samples. Information with regard to six samples of milk was sent to the Durham County Food and Drugs Authority, the area in which the milk was produced. Warning letters were sent in respect of three samples by the Town Clerk, eleven warning letters by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and in the remaining four cases no further action was taken.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.—Twenty-four visits were made in connection with this Act. Five samples of fertiliser and four samples of feeding stuffs were taken.

In the case of a sample of fertiliser which did not comply with the limits of variation allowed by the Act, the Authority of the area where the fertiliser was prepared was notified. A sample of feeding stuff was being sold without any declaration of fibre content. This was the fault of the local merchant who was warned to ensure that future consignments of this feeding stuff were invoiced in the correct manner.

REPORT OF MILK AND DAIRIES INSPECTOR.

Visits	No. of Inspections	De-faults found	Com-munica-tions
MILK:			
To inspect dairy premises	432	12	4
,, inspect retail shops	241	—	—
,, examine milk churns	794	15	2
,, examine milk vehicles	107	5	—
ICE-CREAM:			
To inspect vehicles	97	12	2
,, , manufacturers premises	614	16	4
,, , merchants premises	12	—	—
,, , vendors premises	337	22	14
FOOD AND DRUG ACTS:			
To obtain milk samples	186	11	11
,, obtain other samples	208	21	21
BACTERIOLOGY:			
To obtain milk samples	352	16	16
,, obtain water samples	—	—	—
,, , , (Swimming Baths)	6	—	—
MISCELLANEOUS:			
To obtain samples of fertilisers and feeding stuffs	24	—	—
Other visits of inspection	185	—	—
Smoke observations	11	7	7
Rug Flock Acts:			
Inspection of samples	22	—	—

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table gives details of the number of animals slaughtered and the number of carcases condemned as well as the parts and organs condemned.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered and inspected ...	6987	1037	494	21272	2325
Whole carcases condemned—all diseases except tuberculosis	3	12	4	18	30
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3788	508	—	673	162
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	54.2 %	50.1%	0.8%	3.2 %	8.2 %
Whole carcases condemned—tuberculosis only	5	24	—	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	659	539	—	—	70
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.5%	54.2%	—	—	3.18%

The number of animals slaughtered shows an increase of 2,739 over the previous years total and 11,483 over the 1949 total.

There was an improvement in the slaughtering facilities in the three slaughter-houses but the premises are not large enough to cope with increased killings. Owing to nearly twice as many animals being slaughtered in the second half of the year as in the first six months, it was necessary to slaughter every Sunday from the end of July to December.

Conditions will remain unsuitable until an abattoir is provided.

In the table compiled at the request of the Ministry of Health, the figure of 3,788 carcases of which some part or organ was condemned may call for some explanation.

It relates largely to livers affected with cirrhosis. As only eight whole carcases were condemned of the 6,987 slaughtered, cattle were comparatively free from bacterial diseases. On the other hand, more than half of the cows slaughtered were affected with tuberculosis in some organ or part.

DETAILS OF DISEASED CARCASSES CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Tuberculosis	5	24	—	—	4	33
Fever, Acute	—	—	1	—	12	13
Decomposition—found dead	—	—	1	4	2	7
Septicaemia	2	3	—	—	10	15
Septic Pericarditis	1	1	—	—	—	2
Multiple Tumours	—	1	—	1	1	3
Emaciation and Dropsy	—	1	1	10	1	13
Multiple Injuries	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pyaemia	—	2	—	1	3	6
Septic Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	—	2
Septic Metritis	—	2	—	—	—	2
Septic Peritonitis	—	1	—	—	1	2
Lymphadenitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS	8	36	4	18	34	100

TOTAL AMOUNT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED
AND SALVAGED BY MINISTRY OF FOOD

	lbs.		lbs.
Beef	24837	Imported Meat—	
Veal	202	Beef	1132
Mutton	744	Mutton	45
Pork	8903		
Offal	94431		

Total Amount: 58 tons 3 cwts. 1 qr. 10 lbs.

**Other Foods Condemned
and Collected for Possible Salvage by Cleansing Department.**

	lbs.		lbs.
Tinned meats	7305	Apples	952
Tinned vegetables	7946	Frozen eggs	48
Tinned Milk	1031	Wet fish	399
Tinned fish	210	Dried fruits	212
Tinned Fruit	5333	Rabbits	130
Provisions	988	Poultry	84
Bacon	1598	Sausage	132
Confectionery	202	Cereals	127
Pies	45	Biscuits	17712

Total amount: 19 tons 16 cwts. 3 qrs. 18 lbs.

Inspection of Foodstuffs.

Number of Visits to Premises.

Slaughterhouses	1488	Fish shops and stalls ...	114
Wholesale meat depots ...	655	Retail fruiterers	71
Butcher shops	275	Open-Air Stalls	72
Meat carrying vehicles ...	310	Railway Premises	15
Tripe preparers	12	Canteens, Hotels or	
Gut scrapers	12	Institutions	31
Wholesale Provisions	117	Horse Meat shops	10
Retail Provisions	773	Private houses	12
Wholesale Fruiterers	15	Bakeries	4

Notifications were received from householders relating to foreign matter in imported tinned chicken, tinned sardines and in bread and confectionery. The importers were notified about the imported goods and investigation made locally in the other cases with satisfactory results.

There has been a big improvement in the transport of meat. All vehicles are covered and a further improvement is the provision of an aluminium lined vehicle, built at Monkwearmouth, in which the meat is hung from rails. The meat does not come into contact with the floor and contamination is reduced to a minimum.

The wearing of clean overalls and head coverings by men handling meat is generally observed. It is impossible to keep overalls clean even for one day when carrying meat with a covering of soft fat: as a result of the weight of the beef, grease penetrates the overalls which are soiled very rapidly.

Meat sent to London from cattle slaughtered locally was covered while hanging on the rails before transport. This enabled meat to be transported in excellent condition and overalls remained clean.

SECTION G.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIONS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) 1951).

	At all ages	Under 1 yr.	1 and under 3 yrs.	3 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 10 yrs.	10 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 years and over
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	188	5	11	49	103	20	4	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	13	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis Para and Non-Para	6	—	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Influenza)	49	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	381	41	39	19	31	9	27	73	18	13
Erysipelas	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3225	168	877	1056	1094	21	7	4	27	57
Whooping Cough	1304	173	431	397	294	5	7	2	—	6
Chicken Pox	14	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	18	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	19	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	11	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective and Post Infectious)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5355	397	1375	1540	1547	63	75	146	134	78

DISINFECTION.

The following work has been done by the Disinfecting Officer:—

Number of rooms disinfected	897
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Number of calls for bedding, etc.	418
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The work carried out at the Disinfecting Station at the Hospital for Infectious Diseases is given in the following table:—

Articles	Disinfected	Destroyed
Beds	327	70
Mattresses	540	46
Blankets	1420	55
Pillows	702	34
Quilts	248	14
Sheets	710	58
Bolsters	288	22
Sundries	912	210
	5147	509

SCABIES.

The rooms and bedding in respect of all discharged cases of scabies were disinfested, a total of 631 verminous rooms being disinfested by the Officer during the year as well as the cleansing of 11 persons infested with vermin.

VENEREAL DISEASES

For the report on Venereal Diseases, I am indebted to Dr. Kirkhouse; and I have extracted the relevant facts and figures from his report on the Special Treatment Department of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary.

ATTENDANCE OF SUNDERLAND PATIENTS, 1951.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
M. ...	340	275	318	396	426	442	342	353	364	393	450	366	4465
F. ...	346	315	378	437	354	357	304	351	262	333	277	216	3930

NEW REGISTRATIONS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
M. ...	36	27	37	29	37	39	23	40	27	30	44	31	460
F. ...	11	12	9	13	8	4	12	10	11	5	11	4	110

TREATMENT.

Syphilis. Routine treatment of syphilis was still carried out with Penicillin plus injections of Arsenic and Bismuth. This form of treatment has proved satisfactory. Chloromycetin and Aureomycin were used in a few advanced cases with beneficial results in regard to immediate improvement.

Whether this improvement will be lasting, it is too early to say.

Very few toxic reactions occurred and none with any serious consequences.

Gonorrhœa. Routine treatment consisted of injections of Penicillin, and there have been no relapses.

Urethritis. In previous years non-gonococcal urethritis, in the male, has not been classed as a separate condition, but has been included in the N.V. group. Now, cases which have a discharge from which organisms other than Gonococcus are found, are classed as a separate disease.

Treatment in these cases is sometimes difficult owing to the variety of organisms found. In the first place, treatment has been with one of the Sulpha drugs—and most cases respond; those which have not cleared up are then treated with Streptomycin and results have been satisfactory, only one case not responding.

Ante-natal Cases. 26 Ante-natal patients belonging to the Borough attended the Clinic during the year; of these, 20 were suffering from syphilis, 1 from gonorrhœa and 5 were non V.D. The results were 13 normal births, 1 still birth, 3 discharged (for homes), 1 premature birth, leaving 8 confinements due in 1952

Cases Treated at the Special Treatment Department,
Royal Infirmary, during 1951.

	M.	F.	Total
No. of cases under treatment at the beginning of the year	302	329	631

Number of cases removed from the Register which returned for treatment	11	19	30
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Cases dealt with for the first time:—

	M.	F.	Total.
--	----	----	--------

Syphilis 39	32	71
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Chancroid 3	—	3
---------------------	---	---

Gonorrhœa 122	31	153
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Non-gonococcal urethritis (males only) ... 41	—	41
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Conditions not requiring treatment ... 378	105	483
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583	168	751
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No. of cases dealt with for first time known to have received treatment at other Centres	38	2	40
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Totals ... 934	518	1452
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No. of cases discharged 429	134	563
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No. of cases which ceased to attend before com- pletion of treatment 30	25	55
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Transferred to other Centres 151	12	163
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Under treatment at 31-12-51 324	347	671
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Totals ... 934	518	1452
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181 seamen attended during the year, of whom 66 were foreigners

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 74 more cases of Tuberculosis notified than in the previous year, and 6 less deaths.

During the year 278 cases of pulmonary and 52 non-pulmonary were notified, making a total of 330 cases.

Of these, 150 were males and 180 females.

Cases of Tuberculosis notified and deaths from the disease during 1950:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	2
1—5	5	8	3	2	—	—	1	2
5—15	4	16	9	6	—	—	3	1
15—25	45	69	2	13	—	7	—	—
25—45	45	39	2	5	22	13	2	—
45—65	28	10	1	4	23	5	—	—
65—75	5	2	—	1	7	2	1	—
75 upwards	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Totals	133	145	17	35	55	29	7	5

Statistics relating to **Mass Radiography Surveys** carried out in Sunderland by the
Mass Radiography Unit, Durham.

	Drill Hall, The Green, 5—16 Feb., 1951			Drill Hall, The Green, 7—18 May, 1951			General Hospital, 30 July—10 Aug., 1951			Edison Swan Factory, 5—16 Nov., 1951			GRAND TOTAL		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
A. No of Miniature Films	1090	806	1896	730	1320	2050	449	417	866	841	1469	2310	7122	618	
B. No. recalled for a large film	... 117	... 93	... 210	... 95	... 129	... 224	... 40	... 21	... 61	... 58	... 65	... 123			
ABNORMALITIES REVEALED—															
(i) Non tuberculous conditions	...	3	1	4	7	13	20	2	5	7	10	28	38	69	
1. Abnormalities of ribs, etc.	...	5	1	6	3	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	3	13	
2. Bronchitis and emphysema	...	4	4	8	—	4	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	14	
3. Bronchiectasis	...	9	—	9	14	—	14	—	—	9	4	—	4	36	
4. Pneumoconiosis	...	—	—	—	25	22	3	25	15	20	17	12	29	99	
5. Pleural Thickening	...	21	—	4	—	1	—	—	5	—	1	—	1	4	
6. Intrathoracic neoplasms	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
7. Cardiovacular lesions	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	
A. Congenital	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B. Acquired	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
8. Miscellaneous	...	—	—	—	7	8	15	4	13	17	2	—	2	17	51
(ii) Suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis—															
Previously known															
1. Active	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Inactive	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newly discovered															
1. Active	...	...	...	...	10	11	21	4	12	16	4	7	11	8	68
2. Inactive	...	...	...	...	21	18	39	17	25	42	14	3	17	5	27
Failed to attend for large film	...	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	2	6	2	—	2	6	10
															20

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS CARE
COMMITTEE.

During the year 321 cases were dealt with and in addition to material help, a great deal of time was occupied discussing problems, and trying to smooth out some of the difficulties that beset the patient and his home.

SUMMARY OF ASSISTANCE GRANTED DURING
THE YEAR.

			£	s.	d.
92 persons granted clothing (value)	...	...	211	0	0
45 persons granted footwear (value)	...	...	65	6	2
81 families granted beds and bedding (value)	...	...	314	8	1
51 patients received nourishment grants	...	...	295	12	0
3 Save the Children Fund cases	...	...	25	0	0
6 families received coal at Christmas	...	...	2	14	0
32 cases helped through various Benevolent Funds			237	10	4
27 cases helped through Care Funds	...	...	74	12	2
Xmas Boxes for patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria	...	...	68	0	0
3 children helped through Priestman Fund	...	...	11	0	0
25 children received Xmas Toys					

Occupational Therapy:

Costs from Care Funds	...	...	...	...	34	17	10
Costs re-imbursed by the Ministry of Health	...				449	15	9

Extract from Report of the Care in Illness Committee

This work (still in its infancy) received 418 notifications, an increase of 92 on the 1950 total. Such figures provide evidence of the necessity for the work of the Care in Illness Committee.

Appliances loaned to patients:—

Crutches lent	...	...	...	49	cases
Rubber sheets	...	...	...	43	,,
Air rings	...	...	...	50	,,
Air beds	...	...	...	8	,,
Nursing appliances	...	...	...	97	,,
Walking sticks	...	...	...	42	,,
Bed cages	...	...	...	7	,,
Bed rests	...	...	...	44	,,
Invalid chairs	...	...	...	102	,,
Pram	...	...	...	3	,,
Arm splint	...	...	...	1	case

The requests for rubber sheeting have greatly exceeded supplies and it has been necessary to purchase fresh stocks during the year. Towards the end of the year a number of requests were received for the loan of invalid chairs so that invalids could be taken to see the "Illuminations" arranged by the Local Authority.

It is gratifying to relate that it was possible to grant all these requests.

SUMMARY OF ASSISTANCE GRANTED DURING THE YEAR

		£ s. d.
30 families helped with clothing and bedding	...	60 3 7
53 cases received nourishment grants	...	28 13 4
34 cases received surgical appliances	...	51 6 8
New walking sticks, bed pans, etc. (stock)	...	50 13 5
Invalid chair repairs	...	1 18 6
2 Grants for fares to Convalescent Home	...	5 3 0
1 Second-hand invalid chair	...	7 0 0

In connection with the work of the TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY, the Chest Physician reports as follows:—

There has been a further fall in the number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, although there is nothing to suggest any diminution in the incidence of the disease.

	Deaths.		Notifications.	
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.
1947	107	25	235	51
1948	107	25	277	48
1949	123	18	279	49
1950	90	12	211	45
1951	84	12	278	52

975 new contacts were examined, i.e. approximately 3 contacts per notified case. This is fairly satisfactory, but leaves considerable room for improvement. 26 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were found from contact examination and a further 30 were classified as "suspicious and kept under observation."

141 Tuberculin negative contacts were given B.C.G. immunisation.

The Mass Miniature X-Ray Unit has visited for a total of seven weeks. Emphasis has been placed on the examination of members of the general public, contacts and doctor's cases. 7,122 cases were examined and 68 cases of active tuberculosis found (0.95%). There were six active cases out of 383 contacts

(1.57%); 8 active cases out of 438 doctors' cases (1.83%); and 28 cases out of 2,961 members of the general public (0.95%). There is no doubt that these three groups yield the greatest percentage of active tuberculosis "pick ups."

A Rehabilitation Clinic has been held fortnightly, at which the Disablement Resettlement Officers attend.

104 cases were interviewed, with the following results:—

Placed in employment (without training, etc.)	...	31
Found work themselves	...	11
Accepted for training	...	17
Placed after training	...	9
Accepted for Rehabilitation	...	7
Placed after Rehabilitation	...	4
Available for sheltered work only	...	4
Sick and unemployable	...	8
Ceased to contact D.R.O.	...	3
Unemployment at date	...	24

The Disablement Resettlement Officers have been most helpful and co-operative, and the results obtained owe much to their enthusiasm.

The Chest Clinic moved to new premises in the Royal Infirmary in January, 1951, and the better facilities have led to a considerable increase in the amount of work, as shown by the numbers of cases referred by General Practitioners in the County Borough:—

1947—1,070;	1948—1,343;	1949—1,575;
1950—1,371;	1951—1,998.	

The Borough has been divided into areas, with Health Visitors attending the clinic on the days that their cases attend. This has proved to be most helpful in the general after care and domiciliary management of the patients.

SUNDERLAND SOCIAL SERVICE WELFARE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 1951.

		1950.	1951.
New Cases	...	140	142
Unmarried Mothers	...	85	85
Married women with illegitimate children	...	15	14
Widows with illegitimate children	...	1	3
Matrimonial	...	2	1
Discharged Prisoners Aid Society	...	1	2
Prospective Adopters	...	28	30
Care and Protection	...	1	—
Out of Control	...	2	1
Advice, etc.	...	5	6

Work done:—

Callers	...	...	...	...	1,144
Visits	...	...	...	...	636
Shelter arranged	...	...	...	...	24
Maternity Accommodation Arranged					20
Nursery Accommodation Secured	...				3
Babies Passed Over—for adoption	...				22
Adoptions Legalised	...	...	...	...	22
Employment Secured	...	...	...	...	5
Private Agreements	...	...	...	...	2
Affiliations Gained (Court)	...	...	...	...	7

In comparing the figures for 1951 with those for 1950, it will be noted that there is no marked change. It is very often found that it is not only the unmarried mother who needs our help, but the whole family to which she belongs, and that of the putative father also, so that the number of people contacted could be multiplied many times over. These moral lapses cause very great distress and suffering to all concerned, and material aid—valuable as it may be—is not sufficient. What is needed is spiritual help and guidance also. It would be of little use just assisting them through this difficult period, without helping them to view their conduct from a Christian aspect, and realising the full significance of their share in bringing into the world a child with only one parent and no real home. Some have learned such a lesson by this experience that they go back among their families and acquaintances at work, better men and women, thereby influencing others for good.

A most pleasing development in our dealings with unmarried mothers is the fact that they are beginning to realise how very important it is to make some attempt to get an affiliation order for their child. There is the usual talk of being young and strong, and able, with their parents' help, to bring up the child themselves, if the father of the child is not man enough willingly to take his share of the responsibility; but gradually they are coming to realise that perhaps they will not always have their parents behind them, or even always be able to work for the child themselves. At first, the very mention of Police Court proceedings fills them with apprehension, so much so that the Moral Welfare Officer actually has to go to their homes and accompany them to make sure that they take out a summons.

Proving the fatherhood of a child is a very difficult matter indeed, but in spite of these difficulties a few notable successes have been achieved, and financial assistance obtained for 16 years.

A New Adoption Act is proving to be a great improvement on the old one, particularly the clause by which adoptive parents' name and address is withheld from the natural mother. This means that a complete break is made, with no lingering doubt in the minds of the parents that even after the adoption has been legalised, the natural mother may attempt to make herself known to the child. I find the natural mothers too, have no wish to know the adoptive parents' identity, after they have been satisfied as to their general suitability.

A few of the babies adopted during the first few months of the present Moral Welfare Officer's work here in Sunderland are now of school age, and it is a real delight to see these happy children with their parents.

Married women with illegitimate children continue to present real problems, and the majority who have applied to this Committee for help have laboured under the mistaken idea that they can be discharged from Hospital and leave the baby behind. The fact that we cannot assist them in deceiving their husbands is entirely new to them. In one or two cases we have managed to prevent haphazard adoptions by pointing out the necessary preliminary work which must be done, and the inadvisability of the natural mother knowing the adopters. There are religious differences, too, to be considered. If only people would try to remember that they take their partners for worse in some cases and be prepared to be as lenient over their partners' shortcomings as they are with their own, instead of seeking an easy way out of their difficulties.

The cases during 1951, have been, it is felt more difficult and complicated, but nevertheless, it has been more satisfying to see them through to a happier conclusion.

With a deep feeling of gratitude we record sincere thanks to the following:—

The Medical Officer of Health and his Staff, The Children's Officer, Deputy Children's Officer and Staff, The Guild of Help, The Probation Officers, The Mental Welfare Department, The Director of Education and his Staff, The Magistrate's Clerk and his Staff, Mr. Richard Reed, Solicitor, the N.S.P.C.C., the Almoners of the Royal Infirmary and the General Hospital, and the Sunderland Police.

THE SUNDERLAND DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION

Extract from Report of work for the year ended 31st Dec., 1951:**New Cases:—**

General	...	...	...	...	1,801
Midwifery	„	...	...	...	142
Maternity	...	...	...	...	403
„	Nursings	...	...	...	27
Abortions	...	...	...	...	11
„	Threatened	...	...	...	1
					—
					2,385
On books at 31st December, 1950	...				414
					—
					2,799
					—

Taken off books:

Convalescent	...	...	...	...	1,633
To Hospital	...	...	...	...	301
Deaths	...	...	...	...	300
For other causes	...	...	...	...	119
					—
					2,353
Remaining on books 31st Dec., 1951	...				446
					—
					2,799
					—

Visits:

General	...	...	...	...	75,821
Midwifery	...	...	...	...	4,244
Maternity	...	...	...	...	11,241
Ante-natal	...	...	...	...	5,356
Post-natal	...	...	...	...	1,802
Casual	...	...	...	...	71
					—
					98,535
					—

Aged Patients (included in totals above):—

On books at 31st January, 1951 (commencement of records)	299
New patients, Feb.—Dec., 1951	651
Remaining on books at 31st Dec., 1951	288
Visits, Feb.—Dec., 1951	42,514
Aged patients on books at 31.12.51 = 67.2%	
Visits to Aged patients, Feb.—Dec., 1951 = 61.5%	

It will be observed that the total number of cases nursed for the year amounted to 2,799; total number of visits, 98,535, which is the largest figure for visits on record.

The figures for the previous years were:—

1948—cases nursed	2,759;	visits	84,729
1949—,,,,	2,659;	,,	81,631
1950—,,,,	2,839;	,,	96,157

When it is considered that the nursing staff of the Association does not exceed 41, some of whom are part-time, it will be realized what a tremendous amount of work is done by the Association.

SECTION H.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Mental Health Sub-Committee consists of eleven members of the Health Committee and meetings are held at monthly intervals.

Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees.

The co-operation between the Local Authority Mental Health Service, Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees continues to be satisfactory, the officers in these departments maintaining a close, cordial liaison with each other to ensure that the public receive a high standard of service.

Patients on licence are still either supervised by the Hospital Welfare Officers or our own Mental Welfare Officers on behalf of those hospitals which have not yet appointed social workers to their staff.

Duties delegated to Voluntary Organisations

There is still need for assistance from voluntary organisations in our midst and valuable help and guidance has been given by the Guild of Help, British Red Cross, Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Families Association, Service Benevolent Fund, Ex-Service Employment Association, Women's Voluntary Services and the British Legion.

Training of Mental Health Workers

There is still a shortage of fully trained Mental Health Workers (Psychiatric Social Workers) in the field of social work, but it is gratifying to note the increase in the number of students who have taken or who are taking the training course for "Occupation Centre Supervisors" organised by the National Association for Mental Health, but as yet there is no danger of supply exceeding demand. It is disappointing to note that no great progress has yet been made to implement the suggestions contained in the "Mackintosh Report of the Committee on Social Workers in Mental Health Service" for the provision of "trainee schemes" or short courses of training, both theoretical and practical, designed to give the student an introduction to the mental health service. A short course of training recognised throughout the country would be invaluable to the experienced worker unable to undertake the Mental Health Course at a University, either for financial reasons or owing to lack of the requisite preliminary academic qualifications.

During 1951 the Supervisor of the Occupation Centre, The Mental Deficiency Officer and Male Social Worker attended Refresher Courses at Manchester and Newcastle-upon-Tyne—these workers are grateful for the facilities granted by the Council for this purpose and value the opportunities afforded them to obtain new ideas, make social contact and hold discussions with their colleagues. Attendance at these Courses encourages them to retain their interest and keep up-to-date with the methods of training and treatment provided for the mentally ill or handicapped people.

Account of work undertaken in the Community under Section 28 National Health Service Act, 1946, Prevention, Care and After-Care

Referrals to the Local Health Authority of persons in need of care or after-care owing to "mental ill-health" continue to be received, but it is not possible to present accurate statistics relating to this problem as many medical practitioners still refer their patients direct to the Psychological Clinic for Out-patients at the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland and only those patients whom they recommend for admission to hospital, to the Duly Authorised Officer. The result of this method, of course, is that all direct referrals to the Royal Infirmary are not notified to this Authority, so consequently our records for this branch of the service are incomplete. However, the Social Worker, Duly Authorised Officer and Mental Health Workers co-operate to ensure that all persons medically recommended as being in need of support and help to re-adjust themselves in the community are given adequate assistance.

From 1st January—30th September, 1951, the supervision of these psychiatric cases was undertaken on our behalf by the National Association for Mental Health Regional Office in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and from the 1st October has been done entirely by our own Mental Health Workers. The National Association for Mental Health closed their Newcastle branch and now operate from their headquarters in London only. Consultations and interviews are held at 7 Murton Street, by Dr. W. Hinds, every Tuesday from 4.0 p.m., at the Psychological Clinic, Royal Infirmary every Monday from 2.30—6.0 p.m. and by appointment at Cherry Knowle Hospital, Ryhope, by the Medical Superintendent and Medical Officers. Arrangements for appointments at Murton Street are made by contacting the Mental Deficiency Officer (Telephone No. 4720) or Duly Authorised Officer, Thornholme Road, Sunderland (Telephone No. Sunderland 56201), between 9.0 a.m.—5.0 p.m. and at the Royal Infirmary or Cherry Knowle Hospital at such hospitals or by telephone Nos. 5492 or Ryhope 317.

The amount of work carried out by the National Association for Mental Health on our behalf during the period 1st January—30th September, 1951 was as follows:—

Cases on the 31.12.1950	36
Cases re-opened	1
	<hr/>
	37
Cases closed	31
	<hr/>
Cases as on 30.9.1951	6
	<hr/>

Number of—

Visits and Interviews	221
Letters sent out	112
Consultations, telephone calls, etc.	59

The demands and need for care and after-care of mental defectives undertaken by the Mental Deficiency Officer and two Social Workers does not indicate any tendency to decrease and is indeed a serious social problem due in no small measure to the shortage of hospital beds and lack of suitable remunerative employment.

During the year 2,228 visits were made;
409 interviews held.

The Occupation Centres. These centres are a blessing to the harassed parents and relatives who are only too thankful to be able to leave their children in the care of understanding persons to receive the training and occupation specially suited to their needs. The work done by the trainees continues to be of a very high standard and the reward for and value of such work cannot be seen or measured in terms of financial gain for money spent on the service, but the happiness and contentment obtained by these unfortunate children and adults, the appreciation of their parents as they observe them so happy and more able to take their place in community and family life without appearing so "helpless" or "different" to their brothers and sisters. They can, with training, take their part in family life in many ways according to their ability—many of our elder boys have helped to make mats and small articles of furniture in their own homes, and the children and girls have done embroidery, needlework, knitted and worn jumpers, gloves, and socks of such a high standard of workmanship which so surprised their parents that they could hardly believe their children had done them. The articles and goods they make are sold to them at cost price and the elder girls and boys are given a small allowance as pocket money for

attending the Centres. During May, 1951, the Elder Girls' Class gave a concert for the entertainment of their parents and friends, the excellence and success of which even amazed the staff who worked tremendously hard and with great patience to train them to dance and sing, to make their dresses, prepare and decorate the room and platform. The two performances went through without the usual "last minute" mishap or hitch one expects to occur in such circumstances or on these occasions. Christmas parties were held for each class—Father Christmas dutifully attending each one to present gifts to everyone, and staff and friends helping to make the parties a success and memorable occasions for the trainees. Some of the children and Elder Girls' Class were taken by special bus to Rédear for their summer outing and the Elder Boys' visited Barnard Castle. These recreational facilities are a great delight to everybody.

Many people continued to visit the Centres during the year, visitors including three Student Health Visitors, the Hon. Secretary, Durham County Mental Health Association, and an Educational Psychologist from Australia who was making a study on behalf of the parents of sub-normal children in Australia of the facilities provided in this Country for the training and occupation of such children.

**Abstract from Annual Return of the Particulars of Cases
dealt with and reported during the year ended
31st December, 1951.**

		M.	F.
1. Cases reported during 1951—			
Found subject to be dealt with:—			
Under 16 years of age	13	8	
Over 16 years of age	5	7	
Not subject to be dealt with:—			
Under 16 years of age	3	1	
Over 16 years of age	1	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	22	16	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
2. Cases in need of hospital care—			
Under 16 years of age	17	4	
Over 16 years of age	23	33	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	40	37	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

3. Cases considered suitable for Occupational Centre Training—

Occupational Centre—

Under 16 years of age	31	33
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Industrial Centre—

Over 16 years of age	59	56
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Home Training

...	—	—
-----	-----	-----	---	---

90	89
----	----

4. Cases receiving Occupational Centre training—

In Occupational Centre—

Under 16 years of age	17	18
-----------------------	-----	-----	----	----

In Industrial Centre—

Over 16 years of age	15	15
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32	33
----	----

5. Cases who have ceased to be under care ... 11 10

6. (a) Cases who have given birth to children during 1951 while unmarried — 5

(b) Number who have married during 1951 ... 2 2

7. Cases on Register on 31st December, 1951:—

Under Statutory or Voluntary Supervision—

Under 16 years of age	67	49
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Over 16 years of age	374	370
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Under Guardianship—

Over 16 years of age	1	4
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Under Hospital Care—

Under 16 years of age	15	8
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Over 16 years of age	135	102
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Total	592	533
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Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938.

Reports on Occupation Centres.

During the year the Mental Health Department and Occupation Centres were inspected by Miss Gordon, Inspector of the Board of Control and her reports were considered by the Mental Health Committee.

The Medical Officer for Mental Health, Dr. W. Hinds, reports that in 1951 the survey was continued of cases that had long been the responsibility of the Local Authority because of mental deficiency. More precise assessment of capabilities and correct diagnosis have been aimed at and some of the results have been unexpected.

The amount of work for the Mental Welfare Department continues unabated and the need for beds is still acute. The Hospital Authorities are having to think of ways and means to counter the demand until new building provides new beds.

The problems our patients set us are many and varied but they do tend to repeat after a certain number of patterns.

An account of the work undertaken by the Duly Authorised Officer under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts 1890-1930, during the year ending 31st December, 1951.

273 Persons suffering under some mental or physical difficulty were brought to the notice of the Duly Authorised Officer during the year, and were dealt with as each required, entailing many domiciliary visits, besides calls upon relatives, business premises, Offices of the Ministry of Labour, etc., relative to patients' affairs, all unaccountable in Statistics.

Collaboration with and assistance from the Police is maintained. Consequently the number of cases dealt with directly by the Police is a low figure, viz.: 8. Even in some cases of attempted suicide, the patients, after being taken to a general hospital are left to our care.

Some of the cases the D.A.O. is called upon to assist, prove to be other than persons of unsound mind, e.g., of aged persons suffering senility, or found to be weak physically and in a dirty and verminous state, for whom he finds accommodation in the General Hospital or other institution, or has the co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector in cleansing and disinfecting the patients' rooms. Or in the case of an unfaithful husband causing mental cruelty to the wife, or enquiring into complaints of neighbours respecting annoyances from an alleged mental patient.

The following is a summary of patients conveyed to hospitals:—

110 Persons (out of the above total) were taken to various hospitals and under various orders.

To Cherry Knowle Hospital:—

"Certified" and received under Summary Reception Orders (Lun. Act. 1890) ... 42

Remover under 14 Days Justice's Orders (Lunacy Act, 1890)	13
Removed under D.A.O.'s 3 Days Orders (Lunacy Act, 1890) - ...	15
Accompanied by D.A.O. and received as Voluntary Patients (M.T. Act, 1930) ...	15
"Certified" by Magistrates at the Police Court under the Criminal Justice Act 1948, fol- lowing observation in Durham Prison ...	2
Persons during periods at home "on trial" removed back to hospital	3
	— 90

To South Shields General Hospital—Psychiatric
Wards:—

Removed under 14 Days Justice's Orders ...	7
Removed under D.A.O.'s 3 Days Orders ...	2
	— 9
To Winterton (Durham County) Mental Hospital, "certified"	2
To "Leehill" Hospital, Lanchester, under Justice's 14 Days Order	1
To "Crossgate" Hospital, Durham, a Certified Patient	1
(Those patients from Winterton, Lanchester and Durham were County residents).	
To Sunderland General Hospital—Geriatric Ward	5
To The Little Sisters of the Poor, Ettrick Grove	2
	— 110

The above were removed from various places as
follows:—

From their homes to Cherry Knowle Hospital ...	66
From Sunderland General Hospital to Cherry Knowle Hospital	7
From Sunderland Royal Infirmary to Cherry Knowle Hospital	4
From South Shields General Hospital Psychiatric Ward to Cherry Knowle Hospital	5
(these having been taken there to await accommodation).	
From Sunderland Police Station to Cherry Knowle	8

From their homes to South Shields General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	6
From Sunderland Police Station to South Shields General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2
From Sunderland Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	...	...	1
(Those to Winterton, Lanchester and Durham (County Resident cases) were from Sunderland General Hospital. Total	...	...	...	...	...	4
Those to the General Hospital and The Little Sisters of the Poor were from their homes	...	...	...	...	...	7
						— 110
There were also admitted to Cherry Knowle Hospital, Voluntary Patients, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 Section 1	...	...	...	...	...	172
And "Temporary" Patients, Mental Treatment Act, 1930, Section 5	...	...	...	...	...	3
Departures from and deaths in Cherry Knowle Hospital:—						
Certified Patients in hospital who were allowed "On Trial" periods	...	...	...	...	...	19
15 of these obtained "Discharge" as relieved or recovered)						
Voluntary Patients leaving hospital during the year	...	...	...	...	...	140
Deaths reported in the hospital were:—						
Of those admitted "Certified" or under other Orders	...	...	...	...	...	24
Of Voluntary Patients	...	...	...	...	...	8
Among those who had been in hospital						
For over 40 years	...	...	...	...	...	1
.. .. 30 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	2
,, , 20 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	3
,, , 10 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	3
"After-Care" work has been a feature this year as time allowed.						
Number of individual patients, who were either "Certified" or otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	99
In the majority of cases it was pleasing to note the great improvement in their health, both mentally and physically. However some required further attention and subsequently						

5 were accompanied back to hospital and re-admitted as Voluntary Patients.

3 "Certified" Patients during periods "On Trial" were taken back.

1 was re-Certified and returned to hospital.

In some cases repeated visits had to be made, and assistance given to help to rehabilitate them—e.g., one male patient after a period of 11 years in hospital was wholly unable to undertake application on his own behalf for National Assistance, the D.A.O. spent some time conducting him to the various offices necessary to his application.

In another case enquiries were made as to the welfare of children.

With three ex-patients the D.A.O. had them by invitation to his own house, who were formerly quite strangers.

Only one case of a discharged soldier has been notified for visitation (complying with Ministry of Health Circular 81/50).

